VII. *Extract of a Letter from* Joſ. Ignat. de Torres, *M. D. to the* ROYAL SOCIETY, *containing an extraordinary Caſe of the* Heart *of a Child* turned upſide down.

Gandia in *Valentia, March* 19. 1738. *N. S.*

—UPON occaſion of mentioning Anatomy, I am in Hopes you will not be diſpleaſed with an Account of a new and ſurpriſing Prodigy concerning the Heart, the like of which was never hitherto obſerved, till I ſaw it on the 29th of *December* 1736. in a new-born Female Infant of the Town of *Almoyna*, and faithfully delineated it. Innumerable *Phænomena* have been obſerved in the human Heart, ſome few of which I ſhall mention.

Ballonius ſaw a Heart ſo large, that its monſtrous Size alone, without any Defect in the Lungs, occaſioned an *Aſthma*.

Bartholinus found *Caruncles* in the *Ventricles*.

Spilembergerus obſerved a ſmall Bone therein, which occaſioned a *Phthiſis*.

Zacutus Luſitanus tells us from the Report of another Perſon, that a * Worm was found in the Left Ventricle, which brought on dreadful Symptoms. Its Head was yellow, its Body white, and its Tail ſplit.

Riolanus opened the Body of a Man, whoſe Heart was cartilaginous.

According to *Raygerus*, the *Aorta* with the *Valves* was found oſſified; which was the Cauſe of ſudden Death. *Ge-*

* Rather a *Polypus*. *C. M.*

Geneſius of *Valencia*, a very able Phyſician, has appriſed me in one of his Letters, that, upon opening his young Son, he found the Heart inverted; that is, the Left Ventricle on the Right, and the Right on the Left Side.

Amoroſius ſaw a Heart with Two Points, which on the Outſide ſhewed the Two Ventricles.

Sirenarius found a Heart with its Cone in the Right Side, and there the Pulſation was conſtantly felt.

Martinezius, Firſt Phyſician to the King of *Spain*, obſerved in a new-born Male Infant, the Heart puſhed out of the Breaſt, with its Cone and Baſis lying horizontal, and without a *Pericardium:* A new and remarkable *Phænomenon*; as if the Heart, not bearing ſo cloſe a Confinement, burſt through the Breaſt, and, having broke the *Sternum*, appeared on the Outſide.

I omit *Benivenus*, *Muretus*, *Scultetus*, and *Gierſdorf*, who obſerved the Heart hairy, and found Stones, *Polypuſes* and *Abſceſſes* in its Ventricles.

In fine, I have obſerved, in a new-born Female Infant, the Heart without a *Pericardium*, and turned upſide down, ſo that its Baſis, with all the Veſſels, had fallen down as low as the Navel; and its *Apex*, ſtill on the Left Side, lay hid between the Two Lungs. It would be a great Pleaſure to me, to tranſmit this uncommon Obſervation to Poſterity in a proper Light. But as it will require a Diſcourſe too large for a Letter, and am apprehenſive of being tedious, at preſent I only ſend you this Notice of it; but promiſe that as ſoon as I have finiſhed a Diſſertation thereon, which I have already begun, I will

ſend

ſend it to the ROYAL SOCIETY, with a Figure of the Infant, with the Parts in their proper *Site*. One thing I cannot paſs in Silence, *viz.* how the Circulation could be carried on, the Heart being thus inverted; and yet the Child lived ſeveral Days after Birth. I obſerved the Heart from its Baſis, whence the *Aorta* and pulmonary Artery ſpring, and where the *Cava* and pulmonary Vein enter it, to its Cone, ſurrounded looſely with ſeveral Windings of theſe Veſſels, through which the Blood's Circulation muſt neceſſarily be performed. A wonderful Sagacity in Nature! but I ſhall reſerve the reſt for my Tract.

VIII. Johannes Caſtillioneus *Dno.* *de* Montagny, *V. D. Philoſoph. Prof. in Acad.* Lauzanneſi, *Reg. Soc.* Lond. *Soc. &c. de Curva* Cardioïde, *de Figura ſua ſic dicta.*

S. P.

NON ignoro, V. C. novarum curvarum inveſtigationem, tanquam nimis Analyſtis facilem, contemni: Cum tamen D. *Carré*, non mediocris Geometra Regiæ Scientiarum Academiæ, (28 Feb. 1705.) novam curvam, quanquam *vix ſumma ſequens faſtigia rerum*, proponere non dubitârit; cur tibi, viro in amicos benigniſſimo, nonnulla, quæ mihi ejuſdem *Carré* diſſertationem legenti venerunt in mentem, ſcribere non auſim? Sed procemiis omiſſis, ad rem.

Semicirculi *BMA*, (Fig. 1. 2. 3. TAB. III.) diameter *BA*, ita, puncto *B* peripheriam radens, ut ſemper tranſ-